REMARKS

The examiner has indicated that the applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits from the following species of the claimed invention:

Species 1: Fig. 2, a first embodiment of a computer backplane. Species 2: Fig. 3, a second embodiment of a computer backplane. Species 3: Fig. 4, a third embodiment of a computer backplane.

Response:

The applicant hereby elects Species 2 for prosecution on the merits in response to the above election requirement. The claims readable on the elected Species 2 are claims 3-4. Accordingly, claims 1-2 and 5-7 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the merits thereof.

20 No new matter is introduced in this Office action. Consideration of claims 3-4 readable on the elected Species 2 is requested.

Sincerely,

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Wanton 1804 Date: 1/16/2004

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